LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) A soft target tissue localization device comprising:

a bioabsorbable element locatable at a soft target tissue site of a patient;

said bioabsorbable element being of a material which is palpably harder than the surrounding soft tissue at the soft target tissue site;

said bioabsorbable element having a pre delivery state and a post delivery state: and the bioabsorbable element having, a longest dimension of at least about 0.5 cm when in the post delivery state.

5. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 4 wherein the bioabsorbable element comprises a bioabsorbable filament.

6. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 4 further comprising a marker element in contact with the bioabsorbable element.

47. (Original) The device according to claim 3 wherein the marker element is a radiopaque marker element.

58. (Original) The device according to claim 3 wherein the marker element is located generally centrally within the bioabsorbable element.

69. (Original) The device according to claim 3 wherein the marker element is a radiopaque marker element located generally centrally within the bioabsorbable element.

710. (Original) The device according to claim the 3 wherein the marker element is a permanent marker element.

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811. (Original) The device according to claim the 3 wherein the marker element is a temporary marker element.

912. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1 wherein the bioabsorbable element has margins, said margins being roughened so to help prevent migration of the bioabsorbable element within soft tissue of a patient.

1013. (Original) The device according to claim 9 wherein the bioabsorbable element has filaments extending from the margins.

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11 14. (Original) The device according to claim 13 wherein the filaments are of same material as the bioabsorbable element.

12 15. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1 wherein the bioabsorbable element is remotely visualizable in its post delivery state by at least one of ultrasound and mammography.

13 16. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1 wherein the bioabsorbable element is softer in a post delivery state than in a pre delivery state.

14 17. (Original) The device according to claim 1 wherein the bioabsorbable element is of a different hardness in a post delivery state as in a pre-delivery state.

18-36. (Canceled)

15 37. (Original) A biopsy localization method comprising:

taking a tissue sample from a biopsy site within a patient;

positioning a bioabsorbable element at the biopsy site;

testing the tissue sample; and

if the testing indicates a need to do so relocating the biopsy site by finding the bioabsorbable element by following a bioabsorbable thread, the thread extending from the patient's skin to the bioabsorbable element.

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38. (Original) The method according to claim 37 wherein the positioning step is carried out using said bioabsorbable element and a radiopaque marker.

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39. (Original) The device according to claim the 38 wherein the radiopaque marker element is a permanent marker element.

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40. (Original) The device according to claim the 38 wherein the radiopaque marker element is a temporary marker element.

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41. (Original) The method according to claim 37 wherein the remotely visualizing step is carried out to by at least one of ultrasound, mammography and MRI.

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42. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 37 further comprising the step of selecting the bioabsorbable element so that after positioning at the target site, the bioabsorbable element has a hardness of at least about 1.5 times as hard as the surrounding tissue.

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43. (Original) The method according to claim 37 further comprising the step of effectively preventing blood from contacting the bioabsorbable element until the bioabsorbable element is positioned at the target site, the effectively preventing step being carried out by using a hemostatic bioabsorbable element having a non hemostatic biodegradable outer layer.

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44. (Original) The method according the claim 37 further comprising the step of placing a marker element within the bioabsorbable element.

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45. (Original) The method according the claim 37 further comprising the step of placing a marker element at a generally central location within the bioabsorbable element.

46-54. (Canceled)

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55. (Previously Presented) A target tissue localization device comprising:

an elongate tubular member having a proximal end, a distal end, and a lumen therebetween;

a bioresorbable body contained within the elongate tubular member, the bioresorbable body comprising polylactic acid and polyglycolic acid; and

a radiopaque marker carried by the bioresorbable body.

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56. (Previously Presented) The target tissue localization device of claim 55, wherein the bioresorbable body is remotely visualizable by at least one of ultrasound and mammography.

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57. (Previously Presented) The target tissue localization device of claim 55, wherein the radiopaque marker is contained within the bioresorbable body.

58. (Previously Presented) The target tissue localization device of claim 55, wherein the bioresorbable body comprises at least one bioresorbable body.

59. (Previously Presented) The target tissue localization device of claim 55, wherein the bioresorbable body swells upon contact with body fluid.

60. (Previously Presented) The target tissue localization device of claim 59, wherein the bioresorbable body swells upon to substantially fill the biopsy site.

61. (Previously Presented) A method for marking a biopsy cavity comprising the steps of:

providing a bioresorbable body having a radiopaque marker carried by the bioresorbable body, said bioresorbable body comprising polylactic acid and polyglycolic acid;

removing a biopsy specimen from the breast of a patient, thereby creating a biopsy site;

inserting the bioresorbable body into the biopsy site to mark the location of the biopsy site; and

testing the biopsy specimen.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 61, further comprising the step of relocating the biopsy site by detecting the radiopaque marker.

32 / 63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 / 61, wherein the bioresorbable body comprises at least one bioresorbable body.

33 / 64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 / 61, wherein the radiopaque marker is contained within the bioresorbable body.

34 / 65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31 / 62, wherein the radiopaque marker is detected by mammography.

35 / 66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31 / 62, wherein the radiopaque marker is detected by ultrasound.

36 / 67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31 / 61, wherein the bioresorbable body swells upon contact with body fluid.

37 / 68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36 / 67, wherein the bioresorbable body swells upon to substantially fill the biopsy site.